

## MontCAS Montana Comprehensive Assessment System May 2010 Newsletter

### CRT and CRT-Alternate Spring 2010 Results

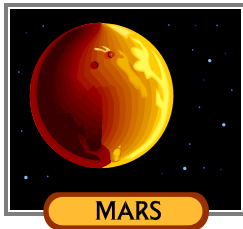
June 2, 2010 (by 5pm)	CRT and CRT-Alternate Reading, Math, and Science Summary Reports and Interactive Data posted on MARS.
September 1, 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CRT and CRT-Alternate Report Interpretation Guides, Individual Student Reports, and Cumulative Folder Labels shipped to System Test Coordinators.</li> <li>The Individual Student Reports will be posted on MARS September 1.</li> </ul>

- **Reading and Math results for grades 3-8 and 10 and Science results for grades 4, 8, and 10** will be available on the Montana Analysis and Reporting System (MARS) June 2. The school and system reports that will be posted on MARS are Roster and Item Level Reports and Summary Reports. In addition, System Roster data file will be posted. NOTE: More information about MARS is on page 2 of this JUMP Newsletter.
- **Printed Individual Student Reports** and cumulative file labels for Reading and Math in grades 3-8 and 10 and Science in grades 4, 8, and 10 will be mailed to System Test Coordinators in September. **New this year**, the Individual Student Reports will also be posted on MARS on September 1 enabling schools to have second copies.
  - In the September shipment will be letters to accompany the Individual Student Reports for students who participated in the CRT with a nonstandard accommodation(s).
  - Please read the letter and send it **ONLY** with reports that include the section symbol (§) indicating a nonstandard accommodation(s). If a report has this symbol, the letter should accompany the report home.
  - Please **do not** send the letter with all reports. Thank you.



- **Reports for home-schooled students** who took the CRT or CRT-Alternate in your school:
  - The results for these students are not included in any of your system or school reports on *MARS*.
  - In September, you (or the County Superintendent) will receive the printed Individual Student Report and cumulative label for each home-schooled student who took the test in your school.
  - Please contact the County Superintendent to arrange delivery of these reports.

## **MARS Information**



*MARS*, the Montana Analysis and Reporting System, is a secure online site accessible by user names and passwords assigned to schools and districts. Results of the 2010 CRT and CRT-Alternate will be posted on *MARS* by June 2, 2010.

The *MARS User Manual* and the reports will be posted on the secure Measured Progress iServices site: <http://iServices.MeasuredProgress.org>

- Select "**Montana**" or "**Montana ALT**" (either works for both CRT and CRT-ALT) from the dropdown menu and click "Enter."
- For the *User Manual*, select "Forms and Manuals"
  - Select *MARS User Manual* (pdf)
- For *MARS*
  - Select *MARS*
  - Enter your User Name and Password. These were assigned to systems and schools in June of 2008.
    - If you need assistance, please contact Gayle Allen at OPI: [gallen2@mt.gov](mailto:gallen2@mt.gov) or 406-444-3511

## **Did you know that OPI offers training on using MARS and released items?**

- A refresher course on *MARS* is online
  - <http://connect.opi.mt.gov/p54135371>
  - Updates will be added to the online course after June 2.
- OPI provides on-site or online training tailored to your school needs and your schedule.
 

The form to request *MARS* training is online.  
<http://www.opi.mt.gov/PUB/PDR/Assessment/Forms/TrainsRqst.pdf>  
 Please consider this training in planning for the 2010-11 school year.

## 2010 – 2011 Testing Windows

October 18 - November 19, 2010	English Language Proficiency Test, Grades K-12
January 20 - 21, 2011	OPI Assessment Conference, Billings
January 25 – February 28, 2011	NAEP, Grades 4 and 8, Reading and Math
February 9 - March 24, 2011	CRT-Alternate, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4, 8, and 10, Science.
March 1 – March 24, 2011	CRT, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4, 8, and 10, Science.



### Summer Test Development Events

#### Tell Your Colleagues ☺

We need your help in the final item review for the Spring 2011 CRT.

Here are the details:

- June 29 - July 1, 2010 in Helena
- Final item statistical review for the 2011 CRT.
- We still need the following Montana educators:
  - 2 middle school mathematics
  - 2 elementary reading
  - 1 grade 10 science
  - 2 grade 8 science
  - 1 grade 4 science
- Training is included.
- Lodging is provided for participants living 90 miles or more away from Helena.
- Expenses for mileage and meals not provided during the sessions are reimbursed.
- Honoraria are provided.
- Renewal units are available.
- Register online at the following link:  
<http://iservices.measuredprogress.org/Default.asp?ProgramID=11&submit1=Enter>

## ELP (English Language Proficiency Test)

Several important activities occur during the summer to prepare for the ELP assessment in the fall. OPI relies on your assistance in updating the following information.



- LEP students who are newly considered proficient:
  - Indicate the “Date English Proficient” field and
  - Code 02, Former LEP.
- Any new students who have been identified as LEP since the CRT/CRT-Alt windows:
  - Indicate the “Date 1<sup>st</sup> Identified as LEP” field and
  - code 01, Current LEP.

Having these fields current will help OPI determine the number of LEP students who will be included in the ELP assessment in the fall and ensure that systems receive training and assessment materials on the scheduled dates.

Below is the ELP spring and summer schedule. A full schedule is online at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/Assessment/ELP/11ELPSchedule.pdf>

Thanks for your help.

Date	Test Coordinator Checklist
May 28, 2010	Complete AIM update with coding on newly proficient and new LEP students (see details above).
June 1, 2010	OPI sends Questar the number of LEP students in each grade based on enrollment reported in AIM. This number will help Questar determine how many test booklets to print.
July 15, 2010	OPI sends Questar the list of systems with LEP students reported in AIM. Any system with LEP students in AIM will receive ELP materials.
July 30, 2010	Questar emails System Test Coordinators information about ordering Level 1 (beginner forms), Braille, Large Print (LP) test forms, and Kindergarten student counts.
August 2 - 20, 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Level 1 (beginner), Braille, and Large Print (LP) forms must be requested via fax by August 20.</li><li>• The Kindergarten Registration form must be submitted via fax by August 20 for systems with Kindergarten students identified as LEP.</li><li>• For new students who need the above materials and enter after August 20, please contact Karen Richem (contact info on page 5).</li></ul>
August 27, 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deadline to have any new LEP students entered into AIM to ensure training and assessment materials are provided to systems with LEP students.</li><li>• For systems that have not had LEP students before or systems who have LEP students enter after August 27, please contact Karen Richem (contact info on page 5).</li></ul>

# MontCAS



## Presents

### *Back by popular demand—New/Improved* **FAME (Formative Assessment for Montana Educators)**

- Online class
- Mid-September – November 2010
- Pre-recorded presentations and live professional learning communities
- Text and materials provided by OPI
- Presentations created and conducted by Dr. Margaret Heritage, UCLA
- Graduate credits or renewal units available

Registration and the updated schedule and syllabus will be online by July 1, 2010 at the following link: [http://www.opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/#gpm1\\_3](http://www.opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/#gpm1_3)

### **Summer 2010 AYP Dates**

June 18: OPI will mail preliminary AYP determinations

July 3: Deadline for schools/districts to appeal AYP determinations to OPI

July 27: OPI will mail final AYP determinations

### **Testing Contractor Contact Information**

#### **The CRT and the CRT-Alternate – Measured Progress, Inc.**

Dan Verdick, Montana CRT Program Manager

[dverdick@measuredprogress.org](mailto:dverdick@measuredprogress.org) or 800-431-8901 x2220

Nancy Hall, Montana CRT Program Assistant

[nhall@measuredprogress.org](mailto:nhall@measuredprogress.org) or 888-792-2741

Tim Greenlaw, Montana CRT-Alternate Program Manager

[greenlaw.timothy@measuredprogress.org](mailto:greenlaw.timothy@measuredprogress.org) or  
800-431-8901x2309

Kevin Froton, Montana CRT-Alternate Program Assistant

[kfroton@measuredprogress.org](mailto:kfroton@measuredprogress.org) or 800-431-8901x2196

#### **English Language Proficiency (ELP) – Questar Assessment Inc.**

BJ Vickery, Program Manager

[bjvickery@questarai.com](mailto:bjvickery@questarai.com) or 888-854-9596

### **OPI Assessment Staff**

Gayle Allen, Administrative Specialist, [gallen2@mt.gov](mailto:gallen2@mt.gov), 406-444-3511

Karen Richem, Assessment Specialist, [krichem@mt.gov](mailto:krichem@mt.gov), 406-444-0748

Judy Snow, State Assessment Director, [jsnow@mt.gov](mailto:jsnow@mt.gov), 406-444-3656

FAX: 406-444-0743

